

## CLAIMS:

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1. A method for assembling a shelf for a refrigerator, the shelf including a plate and a frame, the plate having first and second surfaces and an outer periphery, said method comprising the steps of:

applying an adhesive to the frame; and

5 adhering the frame to the second surface of the plate along the outer periphery.

2. A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the shelf further comprises at least one cross support, said method further comprising the steps of:

10 applying an adhesive to at least one of the cross support and the first surface of the plate; and

adhering the cross support to the first surface of the plate.

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3. A method in accordance with Claim 2 wherein said shelf frame further comprises a bracket, said method further comprising the step of attaching the bracket to the side support.

15 4. A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the shelf further comprises at least one side support, said method further comprising the step of adhering the side support to the first surface of the plate.

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5. A method in accordance with Claim 4 further comprising the step of connecting the side support to the cross support.

20 6. A shelf for a refrigerator, said shelf comprising:

a substantially flat plate including first and second surfaces and an outer periphery;

at least one cross support extending below said plate first surface;



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a frame adhered to said second surface of said plate, said frame extending along said plate outer periphery to form a spill containment area.

15. A shelf in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said frame comprises a sealing lip.

5 16. A shelf in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said frame comprises at least one underside channel.

17. A shelf in accordance with Claim 15 wherein said frame further includes a bracket, said bracket connected to said side support.

10 18. A shelf in accordance with Claim 16 wherein said shelf further comprises a sealing adhesive contained in said underside channel.

19. A shelf in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said cross support comprises an adhesive adhering said cross support to said first surface.

20. A shelf in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said frame and said side supports are adhered to said plate with a solid adhesive.